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January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft, USDOJ  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

After three years of litigation, The Justice Department has attempted to close the long, drawn-out saga of the antitrust suit against Microsoft. Microsoft reached a settlement regarding the suit that is more than fair. To carry on any further litigation will only slow the delivery of advanced technology to the market. The reality of the technology sector right now is that it needs to be motivated so we all can get back to business.

It is necessary to settle this suit to gain back consumer confidence. The settlement instructs Microsoft to provide some concessions for its competitors. Microsoft has agreed to the establishment of a three-person "Technical Committee" that will monitor its observance of the settlement. Microsoft must also provide information about the development of its products.

It is necessary to realize that this country is based on a free market and capitalism, and by settling this suit we can get back to this. The technology industry has already been delayed for too long from moving ahead. Stop all action at the federal level and work to finalize this agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cliff M. Ward".

Clifford M. Ward  
President